the little paper

AUGUST 24, 2007 - SEPTEMBER 6, 2007

Bringing You "Good News"

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 3

Timely Tidbits ...

Wayne County Clerk Extends Office Hours

Business hours at both the Detroit and Westland offices of the Wayne County Clerk have been extended for residents' convenience, according to community liaison David M. Springsteen.

The offices – located at 2 Woodward Avenue and 3100 Henry Ruff Road, respectively – are now open on Thursdays from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Business hours for all other weekdays are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Services offered at the Westland satellite office (as well as the main office downtown) include the acceptance of applications for:

- · passports,
- · birth and death certificates,
- marriage licenses,
- assumed names,
- co-partnerships,
- notary public licenses, and
- permits to carry a concealed weapon (CCW).

For more information, visit www.waynecounty.com/clerk.

Pet Vaccination Clinic

Fluff-n-Puff Pet Grooming (located at 36628 Goddard in downtown Romulus) is hosting a pet vaccination clinic on Sunday, August 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For further details, please call 734-229-0005.

Blood Drive Set

In remembrance of the sixth anniversary of 9/11, the City of Romulus will participate in a "Battle of the Badges" Red Cross blood drive on Tuesday, September 11. The drive will be held at the Romulus Senior Center (located at 36525 Bibbins, across from the Romulus Tower senior-citizen apartments) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participants will have the opportunity to make their donation on behalf of either the Fire Department or the Police Department.

To do your part for this worthy cause, please contact Julie Wojtylko at 734-955-4501 (Mayor Alan R. Lambert's office) to make an appointment.

Parade of Lights, Pumpkin Fest Promise Fall Fun for Everyone

Both residents and visitors from other communities are invited to attend the 11th Annual Romulus Pumpkin Festival, which will be held in the city's downtown district (along Goddard Road between Shook and Romaine) from September 14–16.

On Friday, the festival will kick off with the 9th Annual "Parade of Lights" — a shimmering spectacle that will depart from the City Hall parking lot (corner of Wayne and Goddard roads) at 8 p.m., then wind down Goddard to the Progressive Club at Five Points, where refreshments will be served to parade participants. Last year's parade was an enormous success enjoyed by thousands of onlookers, and this year's event promises to be bigger and brighter that everl

According to the Romulus Rotary Club, which sponsors the parade, prizes will be awarded to the best entry in each of three categories:

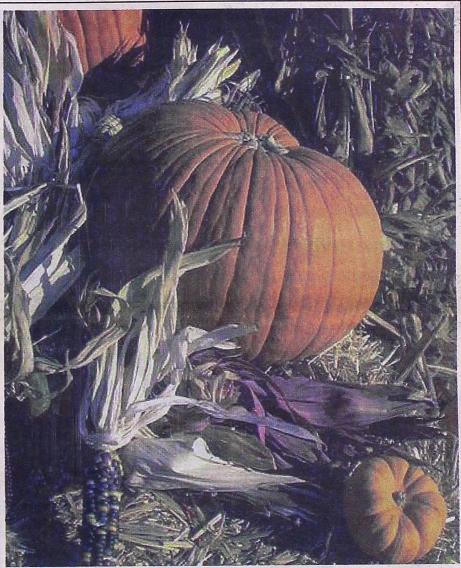
- commercial
- noncommercial
- nonmotorized

Voting for the 2007 winners will be different than in past years. Beginning on Saturday morning, photographs of each entry will be displayed at the Rotary's festival booth, and interested individuals will be able to cast their ballots for their favorites. Voting will end at 3 p.m. Sunday afternoon, and winners will be announced at the main stage at 4 p.m.

For more information (including parade rules), or to download a parade entry form, visit www.romulusrotary.org. The deadline for registration is Thursday, September 13.

The remainder of the weekend will feature entertainment, games, contests, hayrides, craft exhibits, and other streetfair attractions – and, of course, pumpkins. You won't want to miss a minute of fabulous, family-oriented fun!

The following is a *tentative* schedule of events for the Romulus Pumpkin Festival; schedule is subject to change. For further details, including contest rules and a copy of the City's "special events" ordinance, pick up a festival booklet, which will soon be available at Romulus City Hall (11111 Wayne Road) and the Romulus Recreation Center (11189 Shook Road).



The 11th annual Romulus Pumpkin Festival will feature entertainment, games, contests, craft exhibits, and other street attractions ... and, of course, pumpkins. For more information, please see the article on this page and the schedule on page 3.

Contests

One of the highlights of most fall festivals is a celebration of nature's bounty, and the Romulus Pumpkin Festival is no exception. Baking and canning contests allow men and women to show off their skills in domestic arts that are regaining popularity, and pumpkinand sunflower-growing contests bring out the backyard gardener in many.

All entries must be brought to the Romulus Recreation Building (11189 Shook) by 4 p.m. Friday. Winners will be announced at the Hospitality Tent on Saturday at 12:30 p.m. For more information, please call 734-941-8665.

Canning (tomatoes, green beans, pickles, and fruit)

- Pie Baking (pumpkin, sweet potato, apple, and peach)
- Pumpkin Growing (largest)
- Sunflower Growing (single-blossom only; largest face and tallest)

Youth and Adult Competitions

Other youth and adult competitions that promise to provide some good, old-fashioned fun are:

- Pumpkin Rolling (Sat., 12:30 p.m.)
- Sack Races (Sat., 1:30 p.m.)
- Treasure Hunt (Sat., 2:30 p.m.)
- Giant Airplane Races (Sun., 12:30 p.m.)
- Marshmallow Races (Sun., 1:30 p.m.)
- Pie Eating (Sun., 2:30 p.m.)

green beans, All will be held at Goddard and Hunt.

continued on page 3

THE 2006 MICHIGAN ALTERNATIVE "SCHOOL OF THE YEAR!"

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- an emphasis on applied academics, career connections, and technical/vocational training.
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- Michigan Alternative Athletics Association Class "A" championships in basketball, flag football, and chess



Call now for an appointment to register at (734) 532-1954

Community High School - students must be ages 16-19 by September 1, 2007 Community Middle School - grades 7 & 8

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Our high-quality program includes high-school completion and GED preparation and testing with daytime and evening classes.

School of Choice Enrollment: August 20 to September 10









Parade, Pumpkin Fest Promise Fall Fun

continued from page 1

Chili Cook-off

The festival's First Annual Chili Cook-off will be held at Goddard and Olive on Saturday at 1 p.m. Professional and nonprofessional categories will be judged. To preregister, send an e-mail to pumpkinfestival@ci.romulus.mi.us or call 734-955-4577 for an application.

Entertainment

Bands performing at the Romulus Pumpkin Festival will include:

- "The Mayor's Band" featuring Mayor Alan R. Lambert on the drums (Fri., 6 p.m.)
- "Trilogy" (Fri., 8 p.m. to close)
- "Country Jays" (Sat., 12 p.m.)
- "Loose Dogs Bite" (Sat., 3 p.m.)
- "Shirley Franklin & the Delta Drive Blues Band (Sat., 4:30 p.m.)
- "Groove Essential" (Sat., 6 p.m.)
- "Straight Ahead" (Sat., 7:30 p.m.)
- "Channel Six" (Sat., 9 p.m. to close)
- "Camaro Brothers" (Sun., 12 p.m.)
- "Second Wind" (Sun., 3 p.m.)
- "Waco" (Sun., 4:30 p.m.)

Other entertainment will include a church choir performance and dance and karate demonstrations.

Teen Tent

This year's teen tent – open Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday from 12 to 6 p.m. – will be located in the Romulus Recreation Center parking lot (Shook and Bibbins), and will feature:

- music by DJ Jose (Sat. and Sun.)
- "Dance Dance Revolution" and "Guitar Freaks" video-game contests (Sat., 12 to 4 p.m. and 4 to 8 p.m., respectively; \$5 entry fee for each)
- "So You Think You Can Dance?" contest (Sat., 8 to 11 p.m.; no entry fee)
- "Singing Bee" contest (Sun., 1 to 3 p.m.; no entry fee)

Used-book Sale

The Friends of the Romulus Public Library's semiannual Used-book Sale will feature real bargains: adult hard-covers for \$1.50, adult paperbacks for \$.50 to \$1.00, children's hardcovers for \$.50, children's paperbacks for \$.25, and DVDs/CDs/videos/records for \$1.

Additionally, "Bargain Bagfuls" (\$2.25) will be available on Sunday from 3 to 6 p.m.

The event will be held at Goddard and Olive on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday from 12 to 6 p.m. Crafts

Numerous booths featuring handmade crafts will be found along the streets throughout the festival. To download an application for booth space, please visit www.romulusgov.com.

Craft items will also be sold at the Romulus Senior Center on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 12 to 5 p.m.

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the little paper

P.O. Box 74038 • Romulus, MI 48174-0038

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The little paper invites individuals and organizations to submit articles and letters that may be of interest to its readers; however, the little paper is not responsible for the content of such material, and the opinions and views expressed by the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff. The little paper reserves the right to edit any material submitted for publication; however, since material submitted for "Letters to the Editor," "Local Commentary," and similar columns may be printed verbatim, inaccuracies, misspellings, and grammatical errors in these columns may be the responsibility of the writer, and not of the composition department of the little paper. All letters, commentaries, and other submissions must be signed, and must include a telephone number so that their authenticity can be verified.

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While every effort is made to insure that advertisement copy is error-free, the little paper is not responsible for problems resulting from typographical errors which may appear in any advertisement, and limits its liability to the advertiser to the cost of the ad.

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ROMULUS PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

(Downtown Romulus on Goddard Road between Shook and Romaine)

Partial Schedule of Events*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. White Elephant Sale at St. Aloysius Catholic Church

(Neville & Ozga)

4:00 p.m. Deadline for bringing canning, baking, pumpkin-

growing, and sunflower-growing contest entries to

Recreation Building (Shook & Bibbins)

5:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. Bingo at the Senior Center (Bibbins & Shook)

6:00 p.m. "The Mayor's Band"

8:00 p.m. Parade of Lights (Goddard from Wayne to Five Points)

8:00 p.m.-close "Trilogy"

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH

10:00 a.m. Three-on-Three Basketball (Five Points)

10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. White Elephant Sale at St. Aloysius Catholic Church

(Neville & Ozga)

11:00 a.m. Roller Hockey Tournament at Elmer Johnson Park

(Ozga between Tyler & McBride)

11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Cruisin' Car Show (Goddard & Hunt)

11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Chicken Dinner at Progressive Hall (Five Points)

11:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Used-book Sale (Goddard & Olive) 11:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m. Teen Tent (Shook & Bibbins)

12:00 p.m. "Country Jays"

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. "Golden Griffon Stringtet" at Historical Park (Goddard

& Hunt)

12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Historical Park buildings open for tours; various

exhibits featured (Goddard & Hunt)

12:30 p.m. Winners of canning, baking, pumpkin-growing, and

sunflower-growing contests announced in the

Hospitality Tent

12:30 p.m. Pumpkin-rolling Contest at Historical Park (Goddard

& Hunt)

1:00 p.m. First Annual Chili Cook-off (Goddard & Olive)
1:00 p.m.–12:00 a.m. Bingo at the Senior Center (Bibbins & Shook)
1:30 p.m. Sack Races at Historical Park (Goddard & Hunt)

2:00 p.m. –3:30 p.m. Mohawk Native American storyteller Judi Ball at

Historical Park (Goddard & Hunt)

2:30 p.m. Treasure Hunt at Historical Park (Goddard & Hunt)

3:00 p.m. "Loose Dogs Bite"

4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. "Fiddlers ReStrung" at Historical Park (Goddard &

Hunt)

4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner at Community United Methodist

Church (Olive & Bibbins)

4:30 p.m. "Shirley Franklin & the Delta Drive Blues Band"

6:00 p.m. "Groove Essential" 7:30 p.m. "Straight Ahead" 9:00 p.m.-close "Channel Six"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH

8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. First Annual Tractor & Lawn Tractor Show at

Historical Park (Goddard & Hunt)

10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. White Elephant Sale at St. Aloysius Catholic Church

(Neville & Ozga)

12:00 p.m. "Camaro Brothers"

12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Historical Park buildings open for tours; various

exhibits featured (Goddard & Hunt)

12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Used-book Sale (Goddard & Olive)

12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Teen Tent (Shook & Bibbins)

12:30 p.m. Giant Airplane Races at Historical Park (Goddard &

Hunt)

1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Bingo at the Senior Center (Bibbins & Shook)

1:30 p.m. Marshmallow Races at Historical Park (Goddard &

Hunt)

2:30 p.m. Pie-eating Contest at Historical Park (Goddard &

Hunt)

3:00 p.m. "Second Wind"

4:30 p.m. "Waco"

*subject to change

Parade, Pumpkin Fest Promise Fall Fun

continued from page 3 White Elephant Sale

St. Aloysius Catholic Church will hold a White Elephant Sale at the church (Neville at Ozga) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. (Note: The church is holding White Elephant Sale in conjunction with the Romulus Pumpkin Festival because it will not be hosting the St. Aloysius Festival this year.)

Bingo Benefits New Animal Shelter

The Friends of the Romulus Animal Shelter's 50/50 Bingo Benefit is back again to raise money for the construction of a new facility for our favorite furry

Play bingo at the Romulus Senior Center (located at Bibbins and Shook) on Friday from 5 p.m. to midnight, Saturday from 1 p.m. to midnight, and Sunday from 1 to 7 p.m.

City Councilman Bill Wadsworth is asking local animal lovers to help staff the event. To volunteer, give him a call at 734-941-0616, or contact Joe Ozog at 941-3466.

Other Attractions

- First Annual Tractor & Lawn Tractor Show (Goddard and Hunt; Sun., 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., rain or shine; for more information, call Mel at 734-941-3238 or Bob at 734-417-7759)
- "Cruisin'" Car Show (Goddard and Hunt; Sat., 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; to enter, call 734-955-7156)
- Rollerblade Hockey Tournament for five-man teams - sponsored by the Romulus Wesleyan Church (Elmer Johnson Park, Ozga south of Wick; Sat., 11 a.m.)
- 3-on-3 Basketball (Five Points; Sat., 10 a.m.)

"Prettiest Pet" Pageant

Local resident Carman Plank will host a "Prettiest Pet" Pageant to benefit the Friends of the Romulus Animal Shel-

To enter your pet (dog, cat, bird, etc.), send a \$5 entry fee and a picture (no larger than 5"x7") to her at 37147 Wick Road, Romulus, MI 48174. (There is no guarantee that photos will be returned to their owners.) All entries must be received via mail or hand delivery by September 10. Winners will be decided by votes cast at the pageant booth during the festival.

For more information, please call 734-334-3858.

Historical Highlights

The City of Romulus, the Romulus Historical Commission, and the Romulus Historical Society will co-sponsor the following free events in Historic Park (Hunt Street south of the post office):

various exhibits, including Charlie Lau baseball cards, Civil War diaries, an antique purse collection, and Romulus's first ballot box (Historical Museum; Sat., 12 to 5 p.m., and Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)

- exhibit of composite class photos from Romulus High School, 1920s-1970s (historic freight house; Sat., 12 to 5 p.m., and Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- "1949 Caboose" tours (Sat., 12 to 5 p.m., and Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- Historic house tours observe secret trap doors! (Sat., 12 to 5 p.m., and Sun., 12 to 5 p.m.)
- dulcimer/guitar music performed by the Golden Griffon Stringtet (Sat., 12 to 2 p.m.)
- Mohawk Native American storyteller Judi Ball relates Native American traditions for kids and their families (Sat., 2 to 3:30 p.m.)
- Fiddlers ReStrung, a talented group of Saline High School musicians, perform Celtic and bluegrass music (Sat., 4 to 5 p.m.; bring a blanket or chairs)

Fabulous Food

- Chicken Dinner (Progressive Hall, Ozga at Five Points; Sat., 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
- Spaghetti Dinner children under 5 eat free! (Community United Methodist Church, Olive and Bibbins; Sat., 4 to 7 p.m.)

Family Fun Week at the Senior Center

This year, the City is extending the fun with some pre-Pumpkin Festival "Family Week" offerings, including:

- "Bunco Night" (Mon., Sept. 10, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; admission \$5) - play bunco, win prizes, and enjoy refreshments; proceeds will benefit the Romulus Historical Society
- Euchre/Bid Whist Night (Tues., Sept. 11, 7 to 9:30 p.m.; admission \$8) features a euchre tournament for adults, prizes, and refreshments; proceeds will benefit the Romulus **Animal Shelter**
- Family Fun Night (Wed., Sept. 12, 6 to 9 p.m.; admission \$2) - enjoy family fun, prizes, and refreshments: proceeds will benefit the Romulus Historical Society.

Preregistration is required for all events. For info, call the Pumpkin Festival Hotline (734-955-4577) or e-mail pumpkinfestival@ci.romulus.mi.us.

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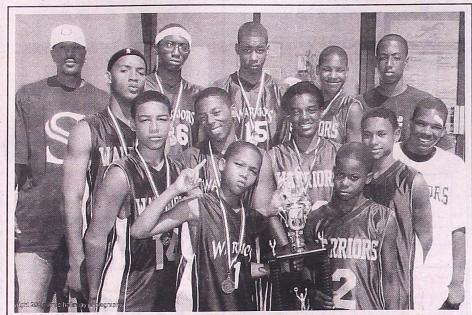
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Warriors Win Championship



The AYBT champion Warriors are: (from left) front—Brian Smith (Romulus) and Jalen Arrington (Romulus); middle—Terrell Sapp (Romulus), Bryant Smith (Romulus), Aveon Simmons (Romulus), Jerry McCray (Romulus), Mikos Jones (Romulus), and Michael Pittman (Detroit); back—Coach Brian Smith, Marcus Williams (Romulus), Arvis Williams (Detroit), Feraud Pittman (Detroit), and Kyle Holloway (Detroit).

Congratulations to the Warriors – a team of eight boys from Romulus and four from Detroit – for winning the seventh-grade/white-division championship at the 2007 American Youth Basketball Tournament in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The Warriors played a total of 10 games in the tournament's round-robin

format, eventually defeating their final opponent – Next Generation of Muskegon, Michigan – by a score of 45–41.

The Warriors were coached by Brian Smith, who said that his main objective was "to give the boys something to do over the summer to keep their basketball skills sharp."

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Credit Union's "Freedom Fair" Features Good Info, Good Fun



(From left) Jada, Jordan, and Jasmine Milton enjoyed snow cones while their parents enjoyed free financial advice at a "Freedom Fair" hosted by Public Service Credit Union. The event was held at PSCU's main office, located at 7665 Merriman Road in Romulus, on July 28.

A "Freedom Fair" hosted by Public Service Credit Union's main office in Romulus kept kids busy with carnival fun while their parents sought free advice on topics such as managing their credit and getting out of debt.

As children played games, bounced in the MoonWalk, took on challengers on the inflatable obstacle course, and won prizes like coloring books that teach the value of saving, their moms and dads were learning valuable lessons, too. One-on-one meetings with member service representatives gave the adults a chance to discuss their own personal situations, and also receive a credit report review – all at no charge.

"This was a very successful event, and we were able to help a lot of people," said Dean Trudeau, president and CEO of Public Service Credit Union. "Education is part of our promise to 'serve the community,' and I'm proud that we were able to do it in a way that allowed families to enjoy the day as well as walk away with some very valuable information."

PSCU, which has been serving its members since 1951, is now open to all who live, work, worship, or attend school in Wayne County. There are also numerous "special employment groups" whose employees are eligible for membership. For more information, visit PSCU's Web site: www.pscunow.com.



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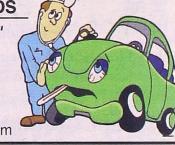
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New Sod Brightens Entrance to Taylor Conservatory



Several Taylor Conservatory Foundation Board members (from left: the Honorable Geno D. Salomone, president; Patricia L. Donahue, executive director; Larry Wright, secretary; and Sandra Thompson, director) were on hand to help with the ground preparation and laying of new sod at the entrance to the conservatory – a miniature sculpture based on the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory on Belle Isle.

The ongoing development project known as the Taylor Conservatory & Botanical Gardens is one small step closer to completion.

On Saturday, August 18, Taylor Conservatory Foundation Board members joined other volunteers to prepare ground and lay new sod at the entrance to the development, which is located on two acres of land adjacent to Taylor Heritage Park, near the intersection of Pardee and Northline.

The official groundbreaking for the project, which is being overseen by the award-winning design firm Historical Courtyard & Gardens, was held in October 2006. Plans call for the completed

development to feature a miniature replica of the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory on Belle Isle (already in place), which will serve as a dramatic entrance to the garden area.

Foundation Board executive director Patricia L. Donahue hopes the gardens will become a popular destination for residents of neighboring communities as well as those from Taylor, and that they will contribute to its growth through volunteer work and/or donations.

For more information about the Taylor Conservatory & Botanical Gardens or to learn about ways that you can get involved in this worthwhile project, visit taylorconservatory.org.

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Conservatory project volunteer Richard Todd was among those who laid the new sod, part of which was donated by Hillcrest Sod Farms, Romulus.

Guest Commentary

Clearing the Way for Great Lakes Shipping

By US Senator Carl Levin

The Great Lakes have a problem. Freighters are getting stuck in Great Lakes shipping channels, and they need tugboats to turn them around. Many boats can't reach their docking sites, other ships are carrying reduced loads, and some shipments have simply ceased altogether.

For example, one freighter ran aground in the Saginaw River last year and its rudder was torn off and never found. And shipping at the Wirt Stone Dock in Buena Vista Township has dropped by a whopping 25 percent.

What's behind this problem, which is hurting Michigan's economy? There is an enormous backlog in dredging the lakes. Dredging is the process of removing sediment that builds up in shipping channels and prevents ships from getting through. It is a routine and necessary practice but requires constant vigilance.

In recent years, Great Lakes dredging has not been adequately funded, and according to the Army Corps of Engineers, there is currently a backlog of 16 million cubic yards that needs to be dredged.

This dredging backlog has been made much worse by historically low water levels in the Great Lakes. Lake Superior, for example, has dropped to its lowest level in 81 years.

This situation is simply not sustainable. Every year, hundreds of millions of tons of goods are transported through the Great Lakes waterways. Freighters carry steel for our automobiles, limestone for the construction industry, and coal to provide electricity for homes and manufacturing plants, among many other products and resources needed nationwide

Recently, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reported that the Great Lakes system needs about \$200 million for dredging each year. But the Great Lakes are being shortchanged by about half that amount every year.

Part of the problem is that the Corps' budget nationwide has not been sufficiently funded, but the shortfall for the Great Lakes is also due to how that money is prioritized. In recent years, the Army Corps has prioritized dredging projects based primarily on the amount of tonnage a harbor processes, shortchanging ports that handle less than one million tons of cargo per year.

That is simply unfair. Almost half of the commercial harbors in the Great Lakes handle less than one million tons of cargo each year, and two-thirds of all

shipping in the United States either starts or finishes at small harbors like these. Many of the communities surrounding smaller ports depend on shipping activity much more than at larger ports.

Manistee Harbor on Lake Michigan, for example, is classified as a small harbor because it handles "only" 940,000 tons of cargo. Yet multiple companies rely on this harbor, including Morton Salt, and fully 10 percent of the local population is economically dependent on the port.

I'm working on a number of fronts to secure the resources for the dredging we need. I am working closely with the Senate Appropriations Committee to obtain the necessary funding. The appropriations bill passed by the Committee in June includes \$53 million for operation and maintenance of Great Lakes shipping channels, including dredging. That's \$15.6 million more than last year and \$13.5 million more than the President requested. As the bill continues to make its way through Congress, I will continue to fight hard for this funding.

Working with my colleagues, I also added a provision to the Water Resources Development Act that would direct the Secretary of the Army to expedite the maintenance and dredging of important navigational channels within the Great Lakes. That bill has been passed by the Senate and is very close to becoming law. I have also personally urged the Army Corps of Engineers to dredge Great Lakes harbors and channels.

It will be slow and difficult work to get the Great Lakes navigation infrastructure rehabilitated, but it needs to be done. Right now, the biggest ships are each leaving more than 8,000 tons of cargo behind on the docks so they won't get stuck in shipping channels that haven't been dredged. Eight thousand tons is enough coal to provide three hours of electricity in Detroit or enough steel for 6,000 cars. With Michigan's economy already suffering from the loss of manufacturing jobs, we can't afford to lose the economic activity from shipping on the Great Lakes. Adequate funding for dredging and more equitable treatment of smaller ports can make the difference.

Editor's note: The "Guest Commentary" column is open to responsible individuals and spokespersons who would like to share information of interest to our readers. To find out more about submitting a Commentary to the little paper, please call 734-941-1907.

□

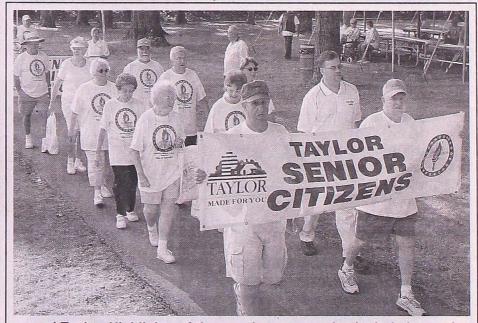
Senior Olympics



Communities taking part in the Opening Day ceremonies for the annual Downriver Senior Olympics, hosted by the City of Romulus the week of July 30 to August 3, included Brownstown ...



... Huron Township ...



... and Taylor. Highlights of the opening ceremonies included remarks from government officials as well as a complimentary breakfast courtesy of Silver Spoon. The annual event promotes fellowship between the Downriver communities, and also encourages seniors to stay active.

Sassy Seniors

For more information about these or other programs, contact the appropriate senior-citizen center.

Romulus

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Crafter/Vendor Tables Available for Pumpkin Festival

The Romulus Senior Center is inviting crafters and vendors to come to the Center to sell their wares during the Romulus Pumpkin Festival. Cost for the three-day period (September 14–16) is just \$25. For more information, or to register, call the Center.

Breakfast Benefits Boy Scouts

What's the best way to prepare yourself for a long day of Pumpkin Fest fun? Start off with a hearty breakfast that's good for you ... and your community!

Local Boy Scouts will be hosting a pancake breakfast fund-raiser at the Romulus Senior Center on Saturday, September 15, from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, including suggested donations, call the Center.

Sign Up for Fall Bowling

Seniors who would like to be a team member or alternate on a fall bowling league are encouraged to attend an informational meeting on Wednesday, September 5, at 9:30 a.m.

Shopping Trips

Romulus seniors can ride the Center's van, free of charge, for shopping at Meijer/Southland on Monday, September 10, at Wal-Mart/Kroger on Monday, September 17; and/or at Kmart on Monday, September 24. (All trips depart at 9:30 a.m.) Seating is limited; advance registration is required.

Lunch Out

The Senior Center van will be traveling to the Country Buffet in Taylor on Friday, September 21. Sign up at the Center if you would like to attend.

Special Trips

The Romulus Senior Center invites local senior citizens to sign up for one or more of the following bus tours:

- Cornwell Dinner Theater (September 10; \$70),
- Windsor Raceway (September 11;
- Grand Mountaineer (October 7;

Scrapbooking/Card-making

Scrapbookers of all experience levels are invited to take part in for the Senior Center's next scrapbooking class, set for 3 p.m. on Thursday, September 6. Instructor Leanne West will be happy to share her expertise with you.

Jewelry Class

Maria Lambert makes creating beautiful jewelry both fun and easy in this one-afternoon class, to be held at the Center at noon on Wednesday, September 12.

A \$10 cost covers materials.

Club #1

Club #1, which meets at the Center each Tuesday at 11 a.m., is looking for new members who enjoy luncheons, games, and trips. Stop by and check it out!

Regular Programs

Be sure to check out these free or low-cost weekly programs that are offered at the Romulus Senior Center:

- · Bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- · Bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- Fun Night (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- · Game Day (Thursdays, 1 p.m.).

Everyone is welcome!

Haircuts

The Romulus Senior Center's next haircut date is set for Monday, September 17, beginning at 10 a.m. If you would like to take advantage of this discountrate program, call the Center to make an appointment.

Note: Haircut clients are asked to wash their hair before coming to their appointments.

Check Your Blood Pressure!

Stop in at the Center at noon on Wednesday, September 12, for a free blood-pressure check.

TeleCare Program Available

The Romulus Senior Center's Tele-Care program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost.

To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff.

Liquid Nutrition

Seniors can stop in at the Center on the second Wednesday of each month to pick up liquid nutrition. (Next date: September 12.) To find out more, call the Center.

Hot Lunches

Too hot to cook? Don't forget that the Romulus Senior Center serves a hot lunch at 11:30 a.m. each weekday for a suggested donation of only \$2.25.

Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation.

Sign Up for Senior Newsletter

Want a more comprehensive list of programs and activities at the Romulus Senior Center, plus helpful tips on issues important to senior citizens? Sign up for the *Communicator*, the Center's free monthly newsletter.

Just stop in or call, and ask to be added to the mailing list.

Taylor

6750 Troy • 313-291-7740

Senior Day Picnic

The City of Taylor's annual Senior Day Picnic – set for Thursday, August 30 – is an exclusive event for Taylor residents only. The all-day picnic will feature entertainment and prizes as well as traditional *alfresco* fare. Admission is just \$5. Preregistration forms are available at the Center.

Greektown Casino

The Taylor Senior Center van will travel to Greektown Casino at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 20. A cost of just \$5 covers a \$15 voucher that can be used for food or money. This trip is sure to fill up fast, so sign up soon!

Stoney Creek Apple Orchard

Enjoy a wagon ride out to the orchard to pick your own bag of apples, then relax with cider and donuts when Taylor Senior Center denizens travel to Romeo's Stoney Creek Apple Orchard on Friday, September 21. Cost for the trip is \$8 plus the cost of lunch. Sign up at the Center.

Halloween Party

Musical entertainment and a catered meal will highlight the Taylor Center's upcoming Halloween Party, set for Thursday, October 25, from 2 to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$12. Sign up at the Center.

Monthly Birthday Bash

Were you born in September? Let the Taylor Senior Center help you celebrate with its monthly birthday bash, which is usually held from 1 to 3 p.m. on the last Thursday of each Month. (Next date: September 27.)

The Center's friendly staff provides the cake, ice-cream, and entertainment (including karaoke); all you have to do is show up and enjoy the fun!

Although the program is free, those who would like to attend must RSVP to the Center at least one week ahead so that there's plenty of everything to go around.

Thanks to Regency Healthcare ...

Regency Healthcare donates snacks and the cover-all prize for bingo games at the Center at 9 a.m. on the second Friday of each month. Regency also hosts a gourmet dessert reception at the Center on a quarterly basis. Be sure to check out the monthly calendar at the Senior Center.

... and American House

American House provides either a breakfast or bingo prizes to the Center at 9 a.m. on the third Friday of each month. Sign up in the office no later than the 12th of each month.

Brownstown

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Formal Ball Planned Brownstown's senior pro

Brownstown's senior program will host a formal ball on September 12. Highlights of the event will include a five-course meal, live entertainment, and prizes. Cost is \$25 per person. Space is limited, so sign up soon!

Red Hatters' Clothing Drive Benefits Children's Hospital

The Red Hat Sophisticates' clothing drive for Children's Hospital of Michigan will continue through September 3. Clothing items needed (size infant through XXXL) include infant outfits, sweaters and hats, blanket sleepers, nightgowns, and undershirts.

Other items that would be welcomed include cordless CD players, Disney videos, card games, jigsaw puzzles (50 pieces or less), children's books, Matchbox cars, Crayola crayons, wash cloths, baby wipes, diapers (size 1), baby bottles, rattles, blankets, etc.

For more information on making a donation, call the Brownstown Community Center.

Potluck/Game Night

Bring a \$.50 donation and a dish to pass (or \$3 if you can't bring a dish) on Monday, August 27, at 5 p.m., when the Community Center will host a Potluck/ Game night. (Main dish and beverage will be provided by the Center.)

Sign up in advance at the recreation desk if you would like to attend.

Shopping Trips

For just \$1, Brownstown seniors can ride the bus for shopping at Aldi's (August 28; 1 p.m.) or Kroger (August 29; 11 a.m.). Seats must be reserved at least 24 hours in advance by stopping in at the Center or calling 734-675-0920.

Senior Chore Program

The Senior Chore Program assists low- to moderate-income seniors with home chores and minor routine home maintenance projects so that they can continue to live in their own homes.

To be eligible, a person must be a Brownstown resident, age 62 or above, who has owned and lived in his/her home for at least 12 months, and who has an income at or below \$24,450 (one-person household) or \$27,450 (two-person household).

Call the Center for more info.

Check Out the Web!

Seniors can peruse Brownstown's monthly newsletter, plus access a wide variety of information helpful to Brownstown residents, by visiting the township's Web site: www.brownstown-mi.org. www.brownstown-mi.org.

Make It with Michelle

"Scrapbook Letter" Reflects Today's Trends in Décor, Fashion

By Michelle Major

I was inspired to create this "scrapbook letter" when I received my new IKEA catalog with my Sunday paper. Many of its pages are filled with blackand-white rooms and home furnishings. Black-and-white home décor, crafting, and clothing are very popular this year, so I couldn't resist getting in on all the fun. Have you ever noticed that a lot of decorating and crafting trends start with our fashion industry?

This project should take you less than an hour to finish. Your scrapbook letter can be as simple or embellished as you would like it to be. There's no right or wrong with this project; other than some simple, fundamental steps to follow, the rest is only limited to your imagination.

Okay, here we go. ...

Gather Your Supplies:

- one 9" wood letter (most are prepainted white)
- one sheet 81/2" x 11" or 12" x 12" scrapbook paper
- Mod Podge (water-base sealer, glue, and finish for all surfaces - matte or gloss)
- 1" sponge brush
- acrylic paint to coordinate with your paper color (optional)
- tacky glue
- cutting tools (scissors, single-edge razor blade, or X-ACTO knife)
- sand paper, sanding block, or sanding files for distressing paper
- cutting board or self-healing cutting
- disposable foam plate, clean meat tray, or paint pallet
- damp paper towel for quick cleanup of hands and tools
- embellishments of your choice

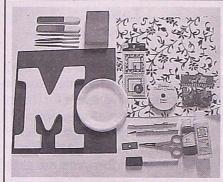
Directions:

Prepare a good work surface by covering your table with paper or a vinyl

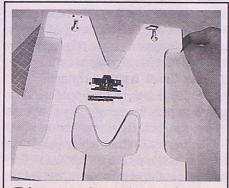
Step #1 - Pour about one ounce of Mod Podge on your pallet or plate. Brush a very liberal amount on the face or front of your wood letter.

Step #2 - Turn your piece of paper face down and apply your letter. (Note: If you're using paper with a pattern e.g., stripes - be careful to place your letter so that the pattern will appear the way you want it to.)

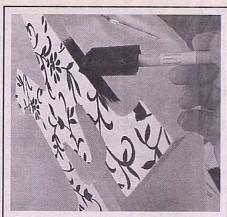
Step#3-Turn your letter and paper over, and begin to smooth any wrinkles out of your paper, continuing until it looks nice and smooth. Let it dry a few minutes before continuing to Step #4. While it is drying, you can wash out your sponge brush and absorb any excess water with a paper towel. You will use



These are the supplies you need to complete a scrapbook letter.



Trim around your letter with an X-ACTO knife or razor blade.



Paint the edge of your letter with a coordinating color (optional).



At the end of Step #5, you can consider your project complete ... or (as I did, above) personalize it even further with your choice of embellishments.

the brush again if you're going to paint the edge of your letter.

Step#4-Turn your letter and paper face down onto your cutting surface (cutting board or self-healing mat). Using your single-edge razor blade or X-ACTO knife, begin trimming the paper off of the letter, being careful not to cut the side of your letter in the trimming process.

Step #5 - Turn your letter over, paper-side up, and begin to sand the edges of your paper to get a nice, crisp finish. I find it best to sand from the paper to the back of the letter in short strokes, as opposed to sanding the length of the edge. If any edges of the paper are loose, you can glue them down by using more of your Mod Podge or your tacky glue.

If you like, you can sand off some of your paper surface to give your letter a "distressed" look. If you have any stamp pads, you can use them to ink your paper around the edges of your letter to achieve an entirely different look.

Technically, you can call your project finished at this point. If you choose to paint your edges or add embellishments, continue on to the following steps.

Step #6 - If you want to paint the edge of your letter, now is the time to do it. Be careful not to get any paint on the surface of your letter - unless you want to show a little "carelessness" in your work to achieve more of an accent with your paint. Remember: There isn't any right or wrong with this project. You've already finished the fundamental steps; now, it's all up to your imagination.

Step#7-Add your embellishments! I chose to make my letter about my best friends, Gail and Dawn. I found selfadhering acrylic picture frames and put their photos in them. I then glued on Scrabble-like tile letters to spell out the words "Best Friends." I made a bow with black-and-white grosgrain ribbon to complete my scrapbook letter.

I hope you enjoy making these scrapbook letters. They make great gifts, and are a great project for a child's or teen's birthday party.

- Estimated time to complete: one hour
- Skill level: beginner
- Estimated cost of non-reusable supplies: \$15 (full price) - but who pays full price for anything? Watch your sale papers, and you can bring that cost down by 40%-50%. (Did you know that, in many cases, Michaels and Jo-Ann Fabric & Crafts accept each other's coupons?) Note that, if you are making more than one letter, you will have supplies left from your initial purchase to use on the others.





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the little paper

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Baby's Name			
Birthdate	Time		
Weight	Length	Length	
Birthplace			
Parents			
Address			
City		Zip	
Siblings			
Maternal Grandparents			
Address			
City			
Paternal Grandparents			
Address			
City	State	Zip	
Name and phone number of perso			
Attach any additional inform	ation concerning the birtl	n to this form.	

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, or Taylor, *the little paper* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

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P.O. Box 74038 Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Bride's Name	
City	State
Groom's Name	
City	State
Bride's Parents	
City	State
Groom's Parents	
City	State
Bridesmaids	
Groomsmen	
Date of Engagement	
Date of Wedding	
Place	5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
City	
Reception	A TOTAL OF THE STATE OF THE STA
City	State
Name and phone number of person	to contact (in case of questions):
Attach any as	Aditional information

concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

The Stork Arrived

Ava Lynn Jesue

Keith V. and Tammy (Koivisto) Jesue of Woodhaven, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ava Lynn Jesue.

Ava was born in Oakwood Hospital (Dearborn, MI) at 7:32 a.m. on Monday, July 30, weighing 8 lbs., 1 oz., and measuring 21 in.

Especially excited about the new arrival was her big brother, Keith Nicholas, age 2¹/₂.

Also giving Ava a warm welcome into the family were her paternal grand-parents, Richard and Shirley Jesue (Trenton, MI), and Ronald and Veronica "Dolly" Koivisto (Romulus, MI).



Ava Lynn Jesue

Obituaries

Melvin G. Genaw

Melvin G. Genaw of Wyandotte, Michigan, passed away on Wednesday, August 8, 2007, at the age of 92.

He is survived by 5 children, Mary J. Killian, Robert J. (Tina) Genaw, Edward G. Genaw, Jon F. Genaw, and Joseph B. (Patty) Genaw; 12 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and 2 sisters, Margaret Peterson and Delma Brisbois.

Among those who predeceased him were his wife, Margaret G.; 2 sons, Russell and James Genaw; and 3 brothers, Robert, Milford, and Ernest Genaw.

A funeral mass was held on Friday, August 10, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus, MI). Interment was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens-West (Westland, MI).

Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Memorial tributes to The Arc of Western Wayne County would be greatly appreciated.

Messages of condolence may be sent to the Genaw family by visiting www.cranefuneralhome.net.

Margaret O. Meldrum

Margaret O. Meldrum of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Wednesday, August 15, 2007, at the age of 85.

The native of Birmingham, Alabama, was born Wednesday, October 26, 1921.

Before her retirement, Margaret managed Key Manor Apartments in

Romulus for 26 years. An active member of the local Democratic Club and Senior Center, her interests included crafts, bingo, politics, shopping, and getting together with family and friends.

Margaret is survived by a son, James (Cynthia) Gent (Taylor, MI); 2 daughters, Donna Louria (Romulus) and Nancy (Ron) Daniels (Romulus); 5 grandchildren; and 6 great-grandchildren.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents, James Sr. and Fannie (Salter) Vance; her husband, Clayton W. Meldrum; and 2 brothers, James Jr. and Joe Vance.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, August 18, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Dr. Hubert Gilbert (pastor, Beacon Baptist Church, Taylor) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Memorials to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation would be appreciated.

Messages of condolence may be sent to the Meldrum family by visiting www.cranefuneralhome.net.



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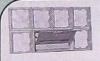
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For More Information, See Page 1